Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The United State Congress, by Joint Resolution, has designated October of each year as National Disability Employment Awareness; and,

Whereas, The purpose of the month is to celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities and educate the public about disability employment issues; and,

Whereas, We cannot afford, morally or financially, to lose the contributions people with disabilities bring, not only to the workplace, but also to mainstream community life as an irreplaceable resource for our state and nation; and,

Whereas, We need to connect employers with employees who have disabilities because it makes good business sense for the employer, and we need to start today; and,

Whereas, Our goal is to make South Dakota an "employment-first state" with our government committing itself to making employment the first priority and the preferred outcome for citizens with disabilities; and,

Whereas, This year's theme of **"#Inclusion Works"** supports these goals and conveys that advancing disability employment is about much more than just hiring – it is about creating a continuum of inclusion:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota, and I call on all citizens to observe this month by hosting and supporting initiatives and activities that support and promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twentieth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State